

Current faculty also mentioned that nursing education first appealed to them because they loved teaching. Ideas ranged from taking a particular enjoyment of teaching and sharing their expertise, to feeling that they had a talent for teaching, or were encouraged to pursue a career in education. Others felt that teaching made the best use of their graduate educations.

“I have spent a lot of time in community activities that center around education and was highly encouraged to enter into the academic setting by people I greatly respect.”

“I had retired from the Army and had planned to never work again. Got bored, started exploring roles, and was approached by the Assistant Dean to apply for a position. It was a new role for me...education vs. administration and practice.”

“My grandmother was a nurse in WWI and my aunt received her Master’s in Nursing from Yale. I felt that nursing education was the best way to continue the legacy.”

Table 1. Initial “Pull” Factors for Current Faculty

At the point when you first considered a career in nursing education, describe at least three reasons why the faculty role appealed to you at that time.	Frequency	Percent
Nursing education provided attractive opportunities and benefits for me	67	89.3
I loved teaching	43	57.3
I wanted my influence to reach beyond students to affect more patients, my profession and the nursing shortage	42	56.0
I felt I could create a nurturing environment which influenced how students learn and grow	31	41.3
I found the various aspects of the nurse educator role to be personally satisfying	29	38.7
For me, combining teaching and nursing was the best of both worlds	10	13.3
Each semester would be new, with new challenges, excitement and variety	8	10.7

Current faculty also valued the ability to affect a wide range of patients and the future of the nursing profession through educating students. This included having an impact on the nurse and faculty shortages. Many saw teaching as an opportunity to give back to their profession.

“The opportunity to promote health and wellness for many patients and communities by facilitating others to develop their knowledge and skills in nursing.”

“I was disappointed in the quality of education and unethical practices I was seeing amongst my co-workers. I felt that I could help instill better practice habits into those starting in the profession.”

“To help decrease the shortage of nurses in the future. I had a total of 26 years of nursing and I knew of the nursing shortage. I felt like I could help in this area because the nursing shortage was predicted due to a shortage of faculty.”